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CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

GILES S. PORTER, M.D., Director

# Weekly Bulletin



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GUY P. JONES  
EDITOR

## California Infant Mortality Rate Makes a Record—Rate for White Infants is 41.7

The organized activities in the promotion of infant welfare which have been carried on persistently, beginning in 1918, have culminated in the production of a new low State infant mortality rate of 58.6. This is the lowest such rate that has ever been recorded in California, having dropped from 63.1 in 1929 to 58.6 in 1930. The infant mortality rate is based upon the number of deaths of infants under one year of age out of every one thousand births that have occurred during the year. A total of 4945 California infants died last year, as compared with 5139 such deaths in 1929. Out of the total of 4945 California infants who died last year, 1921 or 39 per cent of the total, were Mexican infants. This made the infant mortality rate for Mexican infants 132.7 as compared with a rate of 41.7 for infants belonging to the white race.

	1929			1930		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
Totals -----	5,139	100.0	63.1	4,945	100.0	58.6
White -----	2,901	56.4	46.2	2,716	55.0	41.7
Negro -----	78	1.5	74.4	76	1.5	68.4
Indian -----	44	0.9	140.1	56	1.1	170.2
Chinese -----	54	1.1	68.4	34	0.7	42.1
Japanese -----	141	2.7	59.9	110	2.2	49.5
Mexican -----	1,886	36.7	135.1	1,921	38.8	132.7
Other -----	35	0.7	108.3	32	0.7	86.7

The cities and counties in California which maintain adequate machinery for carrying on child hygiene activities contributed largely to the remarkable decrease in infant mortality that prevailed last year throughout the entire State. Among those cities

which had a lower infant mortality rate in 1930 than did the State as a whole are the following:

Oakland -----	46.7	Santa Ana -----	49.2
Alameda -----	20.9	Sacramento -----	57.2
Berkeley -----	31.9	San Diego -----	49.2
San Leandro -----	29.0	San Francisco -----	39.8
Chico -----	38.4	Stockton -----	42.2
Richmond -----	48.0	San Luis Obispo -----	41.8
Eureka -----	47.0	San Mateo -----	23.3
Alhambra -----	45.2	Santa Barbara -----	48.6
Long Beach -----	40.5	San Jose -----	51.2
Pasadena -----	37.8	Palo Alto -----	47.3
Pomona -----	40.0	Santa Clara -----	44.4
Santa Monica -----	48.6	Santa Cruz -----	43.9
Glendale -----	29.7	Vallejo -----	37.5
Redondo Beach -----	45.4	Petaluma -----	37.2
Whittier -----	41.2	Santa Rosa -----	25.2
San Rafael -----	45.8	Modesto -----	34.0
Monterey -----	35.5		

The Pacific coast cities have for many years maintained the lowest infant mortality rates of any cities in the United States and the 1930 records of the State Department of Public Health indicate that this enviable record is continued. Among these cities are the largest centers of population, such as San Francisco, Los Angeles, Oakland, San Diego, Sacramento, Long Beach, Pasadena, Berkeley, Stockton, Santa Barbara and San Jose.

In the unincorporated districts of this State Los Angeles County maintained an exceptionally low rate of 44.8. Among other counties which achieved low infant mortality rates in 1930 are: Colusa, 45.9; Glenn, 48.0; Humboldt, 48.1; Marin, 28.3; Merced, 48.8; Napa, 48.6; Sacramento, 40.5; San Joaquin, 52.5; San Luis Obispo, 37.7; San Mateo, 51.0; Solano, 50.0; Sonoma, 53.7; Tehama, 35.5.

In 1929 there were but six states which had infant mortality rates lower than the California infant mortality rate in 1930. These states are: Iowa, 53; Minnesota, 51; Nebraska, 52; Idaho, 55; Washington, 49; and Oregon, 48. None of these states encountered the acute racial problems associated with infant mortality with which California must contend. In consideration of the fact that the infant mortality rate for California white children in 1930 was 41.6, it would appear that this State may be the best State in the Union for babies.

New Zealand has for many years maintained the lowest infant mortality rate of any country in the world. The rate for that country in 1929 was 34, as compared with the rate of 68 for the United States. Switzerland, with a rate of 52, the Netherlands, with a rate of 59, and Australia, with a rate of 53, are the next best ranking countries in the maintenance of low infant mortality rates. The rates for Italy, Japan, Egypt, Chile, Lithuania, Austria and Czechoslovakia are particularly high, all of such rates being more than 100.

#### INFANT MORTALITY, 1930

County (exclusive of) City	Number of infant deaths	Infant mortality rate
CALIFORNIA	4,945	58.6
Alameda	37	68.2
Oakland	195	46.7
Alameda	9	20.9
Berkeley	25	31.9
San Leandro	2	29.0
Alpine	—	—
Amador	1	11.9
Butte	24	66.8
Chico	8	38.4
Calaveras	2	36.3
Colusa	8	45.9
Contra Costa	49	66.8
Richmond	15	48.0
Del Norte	4	72.7
El Dorado	6	57.1
Fresno	114	63.4
Fresno	53	69.5
Glenn	6	48.0
Humboldt	13	48.1
Eureka	20	47.0
Imperial	105	135.8
Brawley	69	183.0
Calexico	16	81.6
El Centro	26	99.2
Inyo	8	67.8
Kern	80	79.0
Bakersfield	42	65.6
Kings	35	124.1
Hanford	22	102.8
Lake	7	106.0
Lassen	22	82.4
Los Angeles	395	44.8
Los Angeles	1,094	61.0
Alhambra	10	45.2
Long Beach	85	40.5
Pasadena	42	37.8
Pomona	15	40.0
Santa Monica	35	48.6
Glendale	33	29.7
Monrovia	8	74.7
Redondo Beach	3	45.4
Whittier	17	41.2
South Pasadena	1	100.0
Madera	31	81.3
Marin	4	28.3
San Rafael	6	45.8
Mariposa	1	35.7
Mendocino	20	73.8
Merced	33	48.8
Modoc	7	70.7
Mono	1	100.0
*Monterey	38	59.8
Monterey	7	35.5
Napa	7	48.6
Napa	10	70.4

County (exclusive of) City	Number of infant deaths	Infant mortality rate
Nevada	5	60.9
Orange	114	91.0
Santa Ana	27	49.2
Anaheim	11	70.5
Placer	24	72.7
Plumas	7	66.6
Riverside	113	149.2
Riverside	47	70.5
Sacramento	14	40.5
Sacramento	113	57.2
San Benito	12	67.4
San Bernardino	116	95.8
Redlands	19	79.1
San Bernardino	76	97.1
Ontario	13	87.8
San Diego	54	75.9
San Diego	125	49.2
San Francisco	315	39.8
San Joaquin	42	52.5
Stockton	34	42.2
San Luis Obispo	8	37.7
San Luis Obispo	9	41.8
San Mateo	12	51.0
San Mateo	10	23.3
Santa Barbara	46	77.3
Santa Barbara	30	48.6
Santa Clara	68	65.0
San Jose	36	51.2
Palo Alto	9	47.3
Santa Clara	2	44.4
Santa Cruz	7	57.8
Santa Cruz	8	43.9
Watsonville	18	80.0
Shasta	12	72.3
Sierra	2	90.9
Siskiyou	31	74.3
Solano	8	50.0
Vallejo	8	37.5
Sonoma	18	53.7
Petaluma	6	37.2
Santa Rosa	5	25.2
Stanislaus	32	64.5
Modesto	18	34.0
Sutter	11	77.4
Tehama	8	35.4
Trinity	—	—
Tulare	118	88.3
Visalia	22	115.2
Tuolumne	8	60.1
Ventura	118	98.6
Yolo	32	97.5
Yuba	6	142.8
Marysville	12	68.5

#### COLD STORAGE IN GREAT DEMAND

There were 109,780,504 pounds of foods and food products in cold storage in California warehouses on December 31, 1930. This is almost twenty million more pounds of such products than were stored in the warehouses on September 30, 1930. The large quantities of foodstuffs that are held in cold storage indicates the great dependence that the food industries, in general, place upon refrigeration. The number of cold storage warehouses in California has increased during the last two years from 59 to 64. Of the 169,780,504 pounds of foodstuffs in cold storage at the end of the year, 127 million pounds were fresh fruit, 17 million pounds fresh vegetables, 4 million pounds of dried, frozen and preserved fruit, 3 million pounds of poultry, 3 million pounds of fresh meat, 3 million pounds of fish and fish products, 5 million pounds of egg meats, 3 million pounds of cheese and nearly 2 million pounds of butter.

Can you account him wise or discreet that would willingly have his health and yet will do nothing that should procure or continue it?—Robert Burton.

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HEALTH EDUCATION WORKERS

Two full tuition scholarships are available for women in the field of health education at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Department of Biology and Public Health) for 1931-32. These scholarships cover the full scholastic year, beginning in September and closing in June.

These scholarships will be awarded to a candidate or candidates recommended by the National Organization for Public Health Nursing.

The awards will be based upon the nature and quality of the previous academic work of the applicant, the ability which she has already shown in professional work in the field of public health or education, her need of scholarship aid and the probable value of her further contribution to health education.

Through an affiliation between Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the undergraduate School of Education of Boston University and the graduate School of Education of Harvard University, those who wish to take courses in education while studying at the Institute may do so without additional fee at either Boston University or Harvard.

The Scholarships will be awarded on June 25, 1931, and applications should be received not later than May 15. All those who are interested in these scholarships are invited to write to the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, 370 Seventh Avenue, New York, for application blanks.

In considering possible applicants it is almost essential that they have some college work, and preferably a college degree, along with courses in the basic sciences such as physics, chemistry, biology and physiology. A special invitation has been issued to California nurses to apply for these scholarships and further information may be obtained either directly from the National Organization or Miss Ethel A. Fisher, Advisory Public Health Nurse, State Department of Public Health, from whom application blanks may be obtained.

## SAN JOSE ISSUES ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

The annual report of the San Jose Health Department has been issued by Dr. H. C. Brown, city health officer. The report is printed upon a good quality of paper and is accompanied by charts, graphs and photographic illustrations. The record in the control of communicable diseases in 1930 is outstanding. There were but 17 cases of epidemic poliomyelitis reported in a population of approximately 60,000, although a widespread epidemic was present in all parts of the State during the same year. There were

but 9 cases of smallpox reported and 8 cases of typhoid fever. Out of a total of 1446 cases of communicable diseases reported in 1930, 995 were those of measles.

The report covers in detail the activities of the bacteriological laboratory, plumbing inspection, sanitary inspection, inspection of food establishments, meat markets, milk, and slaughter houses, as well as reports of child hygiene, health education, tuberculosis and venereal disease control. Extensive tabulations of vital statistics are also included in the report.

The health officer recommends the enactment of an ordinance to regulate food handlers, to require an annual physical examination of such workers. He also recommends legislation for the regulation of swimming pools and drinking fountains.

## WILL STIMULATE SCHOOL NURSING

Miss Hortense Hilbert, Staff Associate on Nursing, Division of Medical Service of the American Child Health Association, will visit California April 23 and will remain until the end of the month. Miss Hilbert is especially interested in school nursing as it is now carried on in California. Her itinerary is being arranged and will be announced in an early issue of this publication.

## MORBIDITY\*

### Diphtheria.

57 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 1, Contra Costa County 1, Fresno County 6, Fresno 7, Orland 2, Imperial County 1, El Centro 4, Glendale 2, Los Angeles 15, Pasadena 1, Santa Monica 1, South Gate 1, Marin County 1, Merced County 1, Colfax 2, Lincoln 1, Riverside County 1, Sacramento 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 6, Lompoc 1.

### Scarlet Fever.

110 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Oakland 4, Fresno County 2, Orland 2, Imperial County 1, Brawley 1, El Centro 3, Holtville 1, Los Angeles County 9, Burbank 1, El Segundo 3, Glendale 4, Inglewood 1, Long Beach 3, Los Angeles 20, Pasadena 1, San Gabriel 4, Hawthorne 2, South Gate 3, Maywood 2, Bell 2, Orange County 1, Merced County 1, Anaheim 1, Fullerton 2, Santa Ana 1, Riverside County 3, Corona 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento 1, San Bernardino County 1, Ontario 2, San Diego 2, San Francisco 4, San Joaquin County 2, Stockton 2, San Luis Obispo County 4, San Luis Obispo 1, Daly City 1, Santa Barbara County 3, Santa Clara County 1, San Jose 1, Stanislaus County 1, Turlock 1, Ventura County 1, Woodland 2.

### Measles.

1273 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Alameda 2, Berkeley 68, Livermore 4, Oakland 90, Butte County 3, Chico 1, El Cerrito 1, Fresno County 48, Fresno 109, Reedley 1, Orland 1, El Centro 1, Inyo County 1, Kern County 119, Bakersfield 2, Taft 12, Los Angeles County 45, Alhambra 1, Beverly Hills 6, Burbank 26, Claremont 3, Compton 2, Glendale 23, Hermosa 1, Inglewood 2, Long Beach 19, Los Angeles 171, Pasadena 4, Pomona 6, San Fernando 2, Santa Monica 1, Whittier 8, Lynwood 2, South Gate 1, Gardena 1, Merced County 5, Monterey County

\* From reports received on April 6th and 7th for week ending April 4th.

1, Salinas 5, Grass Valley 1, Orange County 7, Huntington Beach 5, Orange 27, Santa Ana 35, Placentia 3, Tustin 2, Riverside County 13, Corona 1, Riverside 18, Sacramento County 6, Sacramento 2, San Benito County 2, San Bernardino County 10, San Bernardino 3, San Diego County 59, Chula Vista 1, Coronado 2, La Mesa 4, San Diego 176, San Francisco 3, Stockton 6, San Luis Obispo County 1, Arroyo Grande 1, Paso Robles 12, Santa Barbara County 11, Santa Clara County 2, Mountain View 3, Palo Alto 1, San Jose 5, Stanislaus County 10, Ceres 3, Sutter County 2, Tehama County 1, Tulare County 4, Dinuba 6, Ventura County 6, Santa Paula 4, Yolo County 15, Davis 1.

#### Influenza.

134 cases of influenza have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 2, Oakland 4, Inyo County 4, Lassen County 1, Los Angeles County 12, Alhambra 1, Glendale 1, Inglewood 1, La Verne 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 40, Monrovia 1, Santa Monica 1, Sierra Madre 1, Whittier 1, South Gate 1, Bell 1, Merced County 1, Salinas 1, Orange County 1, Sacramento County 3, Sacramento 9, San Bernardino County 2, San Diego 1, San Francisco 33, San Joaquin County 1, Lodi 2, Manteca 1, Stockton 2, Palo Alto 2, Stanislaus County 1.

#### Smallpox.

26 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Butte County 4, Bakersfield 1, Los Angeles County 1, Los Angeles 1, Monterey County 2, San Bernardino County 1, San Francisco 1, Stanislaus County 3, Modesto 1, Yuba City 1, Tulare County 6, Visalia 1, Sonora 2, Yuba County 1.

#### Typhoid Fever.

6 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Oakland 1, Merced County 2, Sacramento 1, San Francisco 1, Sunnyvale 1.

#### Whooping Cough.

219 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Alameda 5, Berkeley 12, Oakland 21, El Cerrito 6, Walnut Creek 1, Fresno 5, Kern County 10, Bakersfield 1, Lassen County 3, Los Angeles County 17, Alhambra 1, Long Beach 10, Los Angeles 7, Monrovia 3, Pasadena 3, San Gabriel 1, South Gate 1, Mariposa County 5, Carmel 1, Salinas 2, Orange County 3, Santa Ana 2, Riverside County 2, Riverside 13, Sacramento 5, San Juan Bautista 8, San Diego 4, San Francisco 22, San Joaquin County 8, Lodi 8, Stockton 6, Tracy 1, Burlingame 4, Santa Barbara County 1, Palo Alto 12, Stanislaus County 3, Dinuba 2.

#### Meningitis (Epidemic).

10 cases of epidemic meningitis have been reported, as follows: Imperial County 4, Los Angeles 2, San Gabriel 1, Merced County 1, Sacramento 1, San Diego 1.

#### Poliomyelitis.

2 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: San Bernardino County 1, San Francisco 1.

#### Food Poisoning.

3 cases of food poisoning have been reported, as follows: Marin County 2, Monterey County 1.

#### Undulant Fever.

Los Angeles reported one case of undulant fever.

#### Encephalitis (Epidemic).

Stockton reported one case of epidemic encephalitis.

#### Septic Sore Throat.

3 cases of septic sore throat have been reported, as follows: Ferndale 2, Kern County 1.

#### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS

Disease	1931			1930			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending April 4 received by April 7	Week ending		
	Mar. 14	Mar. 21	Mar. 28		Mar. 15	Mar. 22	Mar. 29
Chickenpox	679	654	523	418	625	699	620
Coccidioidal Granuloma	0	1	0	0	0	2	1
Diphtheria	63	50	37	57	77	56	55
Dysentery (Amoebic)	0	4	1	0	0	2	2
Dysentery (Bacillary)	0	2	1	1	0	1	0
Encephalitis (Epidemic)	1	2	0	1	0	2	2
Erysipelas	14	22	12	24	17	19	16
Food Poisoning	52	6	12	3	0	6	35
German Measles	22	14	23	16	60	40	47
Gonococcus Infection	110	111	107	115	154	101	101
Hookworm	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Influenza	542	450	266	134	34	35	40
Jaundice (Epidemic)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Leprosy	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Malaria	1	1	0	0	2	1	0
Measles	1,376	1,449	1,858	1,273	1,909	1,985	2,463
Meningitis (Epidemic)	7	3	4	10	7	13	10
Mumps	368	369	358	234	794	978	905
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	0	3	1
Paratyphoid Fever	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
Pellagra	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Pneumonia (Lobar)	88	90	82	71	68	44	136
Poliomyelitis	3	2	2	2	4	2	3
Rabies (Human)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Rabies (Animal)	22	29	30	13	16	40	27
Scarlet Fever	146	154	167	110	219	192	195
Smallpox	56	36	52	26	114	95	139
Syphilis	149	170	146	219	249	178	158
Tetanus	0	1	1	2	4	1	0
Trachoma	3	8	0	1	0	2	4
Trichinosis	0	0	0	0	0	4	1
Tuberculosis	247	214	229	213	214	258	320
Typhoid Fever	12	8	5	6	8	8	3
Undulant Fever	5	1	2	1	3	2	3
Whooping Cough	293	343	301	219	179	210	213
Septic Sore Throat	1	4	0	3	0	0	0
Totals	4,260	4,197	4,220	3,174	4,760	4,977	5,503
							5,156

Most of the reportable diseases declined last week.

Influenza made a particularly rapid descent.

Diphtheria shows a slight increase.

Three cases of septic sore throat were reported.